

**CELL PHONES**

Will be kept in  
your locker at  
all times!!

August 2019 | *"Whatever you are, be a good one."* —A. Lincoln | August 2019



MereHistory

# Seventh Grade Texas History at SLMS

## 2019-2020 Course Syllabus and Class Expectations

Sugar Land Middle School | Curt.Baxmann@fortbendisd.com | Room 214 | merehistory.weebly.com

### Course Syllabus

#### Fall 2019 Semester

Geography | Regions of Texas  
Native Texan Cultures  
Exploration and Spanish Rule  
Colonization | Mexican National Period  
Texas Revolution  
*Review and Semester Exam*

#### Spring 2020 Semester

Republic of Texas  
Statehood and Immigration  
Civil War and Reconstruction  
Government and Citizenship  
Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads  
Modern Texas  
*Review and Semester Exam*

#### Textbook:

*Texas History* (McGraw-Hill, 2016)

#### Supplies Needed:

One (1)—1" Three-Ring Binder  
One (1)—Pack of Dividers (5)  
EXTRA CREDIT:  
Box of Tissues | Colored Pencils (12)

**Pre-AP Students:** Will be assigned Supplemental Readings, Document-Based Questions (DBQs), and a **National History Day (NHD) Project**.

### Class Expectations

In addition to the **CHAMPS Expectations** posted in the classroom, all students will participate in creating and honoring a **Respect Agreement/Class Social Contract**, as well as following the guidelines listed below for success in this course and in this classroom:

- **Be Prompt** Be in your assigned seat and ready to learn when the tardy bell rings. Also, remain in the classroom once you enter the door.
- **Be Prepared** Bring all necessary supplies (pen/pencil/paper) and your Student Planner to class every day. Sharpen any pencils before the tardy bell. You will receive access to an online textbook (*Texas History*) to use at home. [Note: A hard copy of the textbook can be provided upon parental request to be kept at home, not at school.] Visit *Schoology* or [merehistory.weebly.com](http://merehistory.weebly.com) for more information.
- **Be Focused** Follow all teacher directions the first time they are given without comment. Active listening using both eyes and ears is expected. Therefore, the most important word in this classroom: **LISTEN!!**
- **Be Patient** Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before speaking or leaving your seat.
- **Portfolio** All completed and graded course work will be kept in a Portfolio—**1" three-ring binder with five (5) dividers**—at all times. Your Portfolio can be kept in the classroom in the designated shelves, and they will be checked each Nine Weeks for a Major Grade; therefore, organization skills are a must. Also, you may take your Portfolio home at any time for studying and test preparation.
- **Warm-Ups** Complete the Warm-Up exercise in your Portfolio within the first five (5) minutes of class—this activity will be monitored for a Daily Grade. We will also utilize various writings (Exit Tickets, etc.) to check for understanding.
- **Student Planners** Update daily to organize your class work, homework, tests, and projects. Checked every two weeks (Daily Grade).
- **Grading** All assignments (Daily/Major Grades) are expected to be submitted on time. Any late work will be penalized according to district policy—one (1) day late = ten (10) points deducted, two (2) days late = twenty (20) points deducted, and three (3) days late = thirty (30) points deducted. Any work not turned in can receive a grade of **ZERO (0)** if never submitted. Failing Major Grades (including Test and Project scores below 70) will be subject to mandatory retesting and reteaching. No grades are dropped. Extra credit assignments and tutorial sessions can be made available at the teacher's discretion. Visit *Schoology* or [merehistory.weebly.com](http://merehistory.weebly.com) for course information.
- **Morning Tutorials (Titan Time)** SLMS morning tutorials are available Monday through Friday from 8:20 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. *All students must have a pass and will remain in their session until 8:45*. Please check with your teacher for a Tutorial Pass and their availability.
- **Absences** It is each student's responsibility to check with the teacher for make-up work immediately upon returning to school after an absence. You will be allowed the time missed for an excused absence to make up the assignment(s) without penalty. However, ISS assignments are expected to be completed when assigned—no extra time will be given for these.
- **Four minutes** Restroom, water fountain, locker visits, and hallway socializing must be taken care of between classes—you must have a "Free Pass" available to perform these tasks during class time. Clinic visits must be for "emergencies" only. All students entering/leaving during class time must have a valid hall pass (no "10/10" passes will be issued—first 10 minutes & last 10 minutes of class period).
- **Tardies** Every class change is considered a "hall sweep" and all students are expected to arrive on time to class. Four (4) "Free Passes" are allowed during each month to leave during class for restroom and/or locker visits. These are a privilege and can be limited.
- **Finally** Each student should read/understand the **SLMS Student Parent Handbook** (available online) and be familiar with general district/school information, procedures, expectations, and Code of Student Conduct. Info on *Schoology* and *Skyward* are available online.

**Dear Student: This is my website version of the Syllabus/Expectations... E N J O Y !!**